1/20/77

Dear Karen,

Once again your clips have held stories Jim and I have not seen. Very helpful, very thankful because as you can now see my appraisal of Sprague was not exaggerated.

And the week of the 4th is fine. We look forward to your coming.

All the explanations on CB are helpful, particularly because you went into options andwastefulness.

Before I forget, I was wrong. There is no index to He Slew the Dreamer. This is the real Huie. Heeey.

Lil is copying McMillan's new and I'll enclose it. I'll ask Jim but I do not believe it is worth the trouble to index Huie. And instead of the small-type Blair, which I've marked up anyway, I'll get you a copy of the typewcript. More pages, less per page but much more legible. The Mc illan will give you a little start I'll ask jim to send his dupe of the transcript and if it gets lost we can replace it from my original.

My conception of my possible use for a CB set is only when the lines are down, or non-electric. I can't depend on getting to the car or in the wintertime to its battery. If in use the batteries go down fairly rapidly they shiuld last enough between charges. So while I have a tower and can visualize an auto set as cheaper, I had in mind only the kind people like hunters carry with a self-contained whip. What we used to call a walkie-talkie in the Army. A good all-channel one locally 4 watts is $169. One at 2 watts is about 100. The portables take 10 penlights. that is 15 watts. I don t know how long they last but what good are they to hunetrs if they peep out on "hello test"?

I do not want a rig for the normal CB uses. I want one I hope never to need. One I can keep in the bedroom and grab if necessary. By the way, except for the house this way and the trees behind the far side of the pool nothing between here and the sheriff's office and the State police. I checked there today. The desk sergeant has a set on top his file cabinet, but a good base set. So they are closer and on 9. (Glad to know about 19.) I doubt there is a CB store in as small a place and I'd want to be able to depend on service, as I've learned with other equipment.

If I get something like this the only other use I'd expect is if Lil wants to call me when I'm walking or as I hope I'll be doing some better weather working around the place. A decent pocket set with a 1/2 mile range would then be adequate. With rechargeable batteries I could turn it on when I leave and recharge the batteries when necessary. I'm certain any such set would let me hear farthur than I could speak. That is for the future.

The only sets I know about locally that do not have all channels are of two and neither the emergency bands.

However, you have given me some thought along this line and I can possibly order one if they come with 4 and 6 xtals standard.

I guess another immediate decision involves learning minimum dependable wattage. I'll ask the technicians who service the local State police barracks. If one at 2 watts will do it, fine. But when I make the expenditure I'll be careful to do a little more and follow your advice on what is good. For it all, many thanks.

These kinds of storms are not usual. But we are not as young as we were and we are 500 feet from the road, if getting there would do any good in a bad storm. I doubt it would. But I can't think of that kind of digging anyway.

It would be nice if Cigna could get Abby Mann, the local boy who made good, on the air to brag about his coming TV spectacular. And it could be taped. I think Morrow's day is largely past unless lots of $$ is spent on the paperback. But if Mann shoots his mouth off, or if Lane does, it could be very helpful.

Thanks and best,